Execution of Justice Worksheet

1. Describe the *stasis* in the play: where, when, who, what, etc. in a paragraph.

The play starts off at the trial of White in San Francisco California starting in 1978 with Dan White, Douglas Schmidt, Thomas Norman, the witnesses and the judge.

2. What is the *intrusion*?

When White is at the police station telling his full detailed story. The information he reveals leads the story into a different direction.

3. What is the *unique factor*?

Ir is the time that they are having this trial but it is also election year.

4. What is the *dramatic question* that should be answered by the end of the play?

Will White be convicted? What was the motive of the murder, did he have a strictly anti-gay motive or was it more personal?

5. Provide an illustration of the *two kinds of exposition* that the play has in it.

The exposition that only one person knows is White is the only one with the full details of his murder.

The exposition that everybody knows is that White was against what Harvey Milk stood for.

6. Identify the most *theatrical moment* in the play and of what importance it seems to be.

The detailed explanation of the murder is the most theatrical moment in terms of visualization and reaction from readers.

7. List some of the *themes* of the play.

Gay rights, religion, the idea of association, jealousy

8. What do the principal characters *want* and what are some *obstacles* that stand in the way of them getting what they want?

All of the principle characters want to know how the case will end. The lawyer wants the charges lessened but the witnesses and the prosecutor stand in his way.

9. Describe some possible *images* in the play and how does the *title* help us understand the play.

The main image is the television screen as transition which I believe signifies the attention that Harvey Milk received before and after his death. Also the title brings up the idea that Harvey Milk’s death was essentially an “execution of justice” when he passed so did this idea of justice that every one on his side was hoping for.

10. Briefly define the *family relationships* that are examined in the play.

The idea of family relationships isn’t explicit in this play. Religion and profession could be assessed, but the main “family” relationship has to the those who were involved in the movement that Milk was attempting to bring to light.